

(2) WESTVIEW PRESBY CHURCH (yellow)  
no tape # (Sept 73)

Project I.D. No 46

NAME: Asano, Fusajiro DATE OF BIRTH: 1/1/1884 PLACE OF BIRTH: Fukushima  
Age: 89 Sex: M Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Education: 4th Grade

PRE-WAR: 1/1904 (in Hawaii) 1906 (in San Fran.)  
Date of arrival in U.S.: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: 20/22 M.S. S Port of entry: Hawaii/SF  
Occupation/s: 1. Domestic Worker 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of residence: 1. Hawaii (2 yrs) 2. Oxnard, Ca. 3. Riverside, Ca.  
Religious affiliation: Buddhist 4. Mexico, 1 yr.  
Community organizations/activities: \_\_\_\_\_ 5. ?

EVACUATION:

Name of assembly center: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of relocation center: None, Asano went to Brighton, Colorado  
Dispensation of property: sold Names of bank/s: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jobs held in camp: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Jobs held outside of camp: \_\_\_\_\_  
Left camp to go to: \_\_\_\_\_

POST-WAR:

Date returned to West Coast: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address/es: 1. San Francisco, California 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Religious affiliation: Christian Church  
Activities: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
If deceased, date, place and age at time of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of interviewer: Heihachiro Takarabe Date: 11/28/73 Place: San Francisco, Ca

Translator: H - TAKARABE

*yellow transcript translated by + interview by Heihachiro Takarabe  
(no tape #)*



NAME: MR. FUSAJIRO ASANO

AGE: 89

BIRTHDATE: JANUARY 1st, YEAR OF MEIJI 17

BIRTH PLACE: FUKUSHIMA-KEN

WHAT YEAR AND AGE WHEN CAME TO U.S.: 1904; 19  
years old

MAJOR OCCUPATION: DOMESTIC

RELOCATION CAMP: NONE (SEE INTERVIEW)



NAME: MR. FUSAJIRO ASANO

Q: Where were you born?

A: I was born in Fukushima-ken.

Q: When were you born?

A: January 1st of the year of Meiji seventeen (17).

Q: Do you remember anything about wars? Sino-Japanese war? Russo-Japanese war? World War I, Manchurian event?

A: About the wars, well, at the time of ( ) war I reported to the authority that I was going to join the army, but they never drafted me.

Q: Was that World War I?

A: That's right, World War I. I don't remember much about those things. For example, when Manshū jihen broke out, I was here in this country.

Q: Do you remember reading about those things on newspapers?

A: It's not good up here (probably pointing at his head, toshi), so I don't quite remember. I've forgotten them.

Q: Do you remember any events like tsunami, earthquake, plagues? How about happy events, sad events, things you suffered?

A: Ya, about a few things.

Q: What were the happy memories you have about your boyhood?

A: There weren't that many happy things in Japan.

Q: How about the New Year's Day?



A: On those occasions, New Year's Day for one, a lot of people brought us presents and gifts, so . . .

Q: And how about playing with your friends? Remember?

A: Playing with friends, well, not really remember any.

Q: Any sad events or times?

A: Nothing really sad I can recall.

Q: How about hardships you went through?

A: Nothing like that, either. Afterall, my family was fairly well-to-do, I don't mean it was ( ), but my family had less problems than average families, I would say. But then, my wife tells me that I was really a bad boy back in Japan. At the back of my house was a street leading to a school, which was right two houses down the street. She says I used to do some bad things to those kids who were going to the school.

Q: Do you remember any earthquakes and plagues?

A: No.

Q: Religion of family?

A: Zen. I don't think it was Shin-shū, it was Zen-shū.

Q: Did you hear anything about Christianity in Japan?

A: No. Well, I did hear something about it because people used to say, "Here comes Yaso." Probably Christians might have been in our neighborhood.

Q: How was the condition of your family when you left Japan? Society?

A: I don't quite remember.



Q: Do you recall anything about your family?

A: Yes, I sure do. My father's health wasn't well.

So, my brother was doing his work at someone else's home at the age of eighteen (18). My mother died when she was forty-two (42), that's about five (5) years after I came over here. Ever since my father lived alone, but because of his poor health condition, he started raising ( ). He loved it. He used to pick them up in the river, and then took care of them at home. ( ??? )

Q: How much formal education did you have?

A: Fourth grade in Junjō (regular) elementary school, I think I can say that, because I went up to the first year in Kotō (high) elementary school, then quit. I used to hate school. ( ), I would go swimming so often. I was a rebel.

Q: What was the reason why you came over to the U.S.A.?

A: A friend of ours in town was living here already. I wanted to come over, too, so I asked my father to give me some money. He refused, saying that I didn't have to go. My family had a rich relative. I went to them, too. Then my mother says, "Don't you ever go." She was angry. So I came back home. Knowing that there was nothing much left to do, I came back home. There was a factory, a big flour factory right in my neighborhood. At Shiraishi in Sendai, which was around seven (7) ri (old Japanese measurement, Toshi) from where I lived,



A: there was a factory, a similar one, that I knew.

When I was eighteen (18), I went out here, thinking to take a job there. Parents didn't give me any money, you see. A long time ago.

I went to Shiraishi, learned the work. Then I went to the nearby factory. I did this for one week. Well, soon, a manager by the name of Suzuki says, "What brings you over here?" Then he goes, "Can you make this thing work?" "Sure, I can make it work," I said. It was to pour water from high above, well, around one-jo five-shaku high, just about from over here to there.

(? ? ?)

(? ? ?)

Anyway, I showed him that I could work on it. He says, "It's very unusual. How come?" So I told him honestly, "To tell you the truth, I went to Sendai and learned it."

(? ? ?)

(? ? ?)

Q: You came over here thinking you might find a new place and opportunities in the U.S.A.? With lots of hope?

A: Everybody was saying something good is here, so I gave it a try.

Q: When did you leave Japan? Did you go through Hawaii?

A: To America--over here . . .

Q: When did you arrive here from Japan?



A: No, I went to Hawaii first, on the New Year's Day of 1904.

Q: Then, when to the mainland?

A: I believe it was in 1907. Wait a minute, maybe 6.

At that time--that's right, I came over here before the earthquake. So it's in 6.

Q: If you did go through Hawaii, how was the condition there?

A: It was very nice in Hawaii.

( ? ? ? )

( ? ? ? )

I got out there first, and then came here right away.

Q: What kind of people were on the ship?

A: On the ship were almost exclusively Japanese. Some from Wakayama-ken, others from Yamaguchi-ken, a lot others.

Q: What kind of ship?

A: ( )

Q: Do you remember anything which happened on the ship?

A: Nothing spectacular. Such entertainment as ( ? ? ? )  
( ? ? ? )

Q: What was your expectation of America?

A: I don't think I had any definite idea as to what to do; I was still young then.

Q: How old were you?

A: Nineteen (19), though I got here when I was twenty (20). I spent close to two years in Hawaii.

Q: On the way here you thought America was a good country?



A: I came with the idea that this is a nice country.

Q: A nice country in what way?

A: Hearing people say that you can make a good money out of any kind of work. I was planning to go back to Japan after making a good money, to begin with.

Q: What was your first impression of America?

A: I don't remember.

Q: How did immigration officers treat you?

A: At the immigration we had little trouble, 'cause there wasn't any inspection. The same in Hawaii. There was a man by the name of Katsunuma; he was from Fukushima-ken, who told me that he would let me go wherever I wanted to.  
( ? ? ? )

When I was in ( ? ) , a friend of mine wanted me to come to ( ? ? ? ) to raise sugar cane. And then I went to ( ? ? ? ) to raise sugar cane.

Q: What did you do when you landed in America for the first time? Jobs?

A: First, since I didn't know the language, I worked at a white man's house. The guy I worked for had a white (or wide) house, and a big businessman himself, keeping ( ? ) inside his house. He also had a store. Besides that, he had a ranch on the right side of his house. He used to give me some vegetables from there. I go pick up vegetables in the mornings, then ( ? ) ( ? ) over night. Other than for this man, I worked at a home of a school teacher, a woman raising chickens ( ? ? ? )



A: I was doing ( ? ? ? ) work. This was it, and was all right. I was doing an easy work. Later on a friend of mine in Riverside, by the name of Higuchi (or, Iguchi), invited me to come to Riverside. I had a bicycle then. He said, "In Riverside you can make twenty-five (25) cents more easily ( ? Toshi). By doing a piece-work you can make a lot more within a few years." He kept pushing me to come over there, so I quit working for this white person (male or female, I don't know, Toshi), and headed for Riverside.

Q: How did white people treat you?

A: White people were nice, because ( ? ? ? )

Q: How did they treat you?

A: No threat nor nothing bad in particular from them. They taught us good things and anything. It was all right then.

Q: Memories concerning various situations--happy experiences, sad experiences, funny ones, bad ones, frightening ones, helpless ones . . .

A: Nothing particularly.

Q: Anything Kuyashi?

A: ( ? ? ? )

In the meantime I went to Mexico after coming over to this country, with a help of M\_?\_\_\_\_\_ in San Diego to take (collect, gather) ( ? ? ? ) I was there for about a year, having been forced to quit, they took my permit. I came back here because I could not work



A: any longer.

Q: Some funny things?

A: Nothing of that sort.

Q: Troublesome situations?

A: Ya, there were some troublesome times while in Mexico.

I was in San Martin, an island, to gather/take ( ? ? ? ).

Since there weren't enough workers around, we went to

San Quentin to recruit some on a hand- boat. Three

of us were in that tiny boat, and then it went under

the wave; then this tiny boat got a wreck on the bottom.

Well, we came to Ensenada. We had ( ? ? ? ), but while

we were on land, they were looking at it (them) then

flipped over with it in hands, and broke it. So we

went to the Mexican Immigration Office. They called ( ? )

and they helped us go off shore. Those things were hard.

Q: How did you find your bride?

A: I was granted one from Japan. I was in Japan then, you

see, in 1922. It all happened this way: A man by the

name of Nagasaki, having everything all ready--clothes,

cost, even passport--just very casually told me, "Why

don't you make a trip to Japan?" And I didn't know any-

thing about this (or, he did this without letting me

know anything about it). "How can I go to Japan, I

don't have money." Well, for more than ten years I

didn't keep any record of my money, just received it and

spent it. Just worked and worked (or, I worked for

nothing). This man, Nagasaki, was apparently saving



A: everything for me. You see, I used to go to bar-restaurants for drinks with ( ? ). Nagasaki was a ( ? ) at a restaurant before. On weekend I used to go out for drinking. Then, Mrs. Nagasaki says, "You are going to be broke and in trouble when you leave us. You might have picked up your drinking habit around here, but you better stop it for Christ sake." She said this to me all the time. But I was spending my money in that stuff . . . But at the time of going to Japan having kept the record straight, he (or, she) told me, "Here's the money. More than you can spend in Japan." This was in 1920. Since they got even the papers done and everything else, I could do nothing but to go, so I went to Japan. I had a friend in ( ? ) of Santa Barbara, and he was back in Japan earlier than I was. When in Japan I told him that I was to leave there again (for the U.S.). Then he says, "Well, then, this time you have to back there with a wife. I am going to find you one." So I said, "I don't want one. I got to go back soon." Again he said, "Yes, you're going back with your wife!" He said we would go and see my wife (to-be), so I followed him. He was going towards the direction of my wife's home, her old home, I mean, which I was familiar with, towards Sawaya. I asked him, "Are you going to Sawaya?" He answered, "That's right." When we got there, madam of Sawaya was there. I just kept quiet myself, but she kindly said, "Welcome.



A: Good to see you."

Q: So you were married in Japan?

A: Yes, in Japan.

Q: In Japanese style?

A: Yes, Japanese wedding

Q: (3 . 3 x 9) ? ? ? Do you know what that means? Toshi

A: Yes.

Q: Do you remember any interesting stories about picture brides?

A: No, not at all. I've heard of somebody else's picture bride, but \_\_\_\_\_(interrupted)

Q: Have you ever been home sick?

A: I didn't have that much desire to go back to Japan at the time. I wanted to stay here for a little more while, then go back. Back in Japan I said I was coming back to Japan after ten years. That ten years became some tens of years already . . .

Q: What kind of hardship did you have in order to get used to the American way of life?

A: I had a hard time since I didn't understand English. Even so, when I was staying at the white man's place in Oxnard, the one that I mentioned before, I didn't need anything. When I was told to do something, then I do it, and show it, that's all. You don't need to talk anything at all. Then at the teacher's house, thought I didn't go 'cause I hated school, I was told all the time to come to school any time. But I wouldn't go. ( ? )



A: ( ? )

he (or she) did go to school to my delightfulness. I was afraid if (s)he'd become \_\_\_\_\_ his Papa.

Q: How much income did you have in the first few years?

A: Gee, in the very beginning it was very low, fifteen cents ( ? )

When I was in Oxnard, I got paid forty-five dollars (\$45). It was a good salary. Forty-five was very good.

Q: When did you buy your house?

A: This one? Well, right after I came back here. Since I bought this with less than one year upon returning, so that makes . . . It's been twenty-two to three years.

Q: Did you have any difficulties then?

A: No, nothing really. I got this right away without any problems.

Q: Do you remember how much it was?

A: Well, very little I remember. I paid about thirteen to fourteen thousand dollars (\$13,000-\$14,000 -Toshi?) There were no houses available to rent, but there were some for sales.

Q: Did anybody help you?

A: No, nobody.

Q: Did you buy any real estate? To do what? And how much was it?

A: No, I've never bought any land.

Q: Japanese organizations like JACL, kenjinkai, churches, Japanese council, farm organizations, helped you in any way?



A: I've been making contributions to JACL and others, on different occasions.

Q: Have the organizations helped you in any way?

A: I've helped organizations, too, like churches. To a Buddhist church, when they were building ( ? ) while I was in Los Angeles, quite a lot.

Q: Oh, that's when you helped them. But how about the case that they, the organizations, helping you?

A: They didn't help me.

Q: What kind of entertainment, hobbies, and other things did you enjoy?

A: I had a little hobbies, but not that many. What I like is, when I was still young, I liked playing pool best. Because I was working then. Other than that I haven't done that much of ( ? ), either. Playing poker, I still don't know how to play it. I haven't done those things at all.

Q: What do you remember about rearing children?

A: I don't have any painful memories of it. When I was all by myself, when I was with my wife, or with my kids, I could get along with ( ? ) so rearing kids was an enjoyable thing to me.

Q: Did you send you children back to Japan? Why?

A: No, I haven't. I wouldn't send them because if you do there would be less loving feelings between the children and the parents.



Q: What kind of contributions did you make during the World War I?

A: Well, I didn't think of it.

Q: Do you remember anything about segregated schools?

A: Well, I thought nothing about it, either.

Q: When did you come in contact with Christianity?

A: That's after the war started. After I was in Colorado. A Reverend ( ? ) used to come around while I was over here, but after in Colorado I followed M\_\_\_\_\_ ? ?

Q: What kind of hardship did you experience?

A: ( ? ? ? )  
( ? ? ? )

Q: When did you decide to stay here permanently?

A: That was after the war ended. I didn't even think of permanently settling down here before the war. Before the eviction I was saying that I would go back to Japan once.

Q: What kind of attitude did whites have towards Japanese?

A: They did nothing particularly bad to us. At the time of eviction, there were some rumors that ( ? ) would do us harm, but nothing happened to us. Instead they treated us better.

Q: When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, what did you think first of all? How did you feel?

A: I don't remember how I felt at that time.

Q: How did you come to know the Notice of relocation? What were you doing at that time?



A: ( ? ) told me about it. I was working at that time, on a tractor.

Q: When you got to know about evacuation, how did you feel about the coming event?

A: I didn't feel good about it, because I wanted to stay out here.

Q: How did you go to Assembly Center and Relocation Camp?

A: We left here as we pleased. Since we were to go to a camp, and since we, the Isseis could not sell our tractors and stuff to any stores in those days, so we left for Colorado with them along with our belongings.

Q: How did you white friends feel about this?

A: Some of those that I was acquainted with told me it was going to be lonely when I'd go. Well, there might have been others who were happy (seeing us leave).

Q: How did you take care of your house, possessions and business?

A: ( ? ) the government said they were going to confiscate, but I had very little possessions as such. Well, with a sewing machine and some tools, some I sold; I dis-occupied the place and left.

Q: How old were your children when you evacuated?

A: The big one was around eighteen (18) and the smaller one was six or seven years old. ( ? ) was still going to grammar school.

Q: How did white churches react to this evacuation?

A: I had nothing to do with churches. Because I belonged



A: to a Buddhist church then.

Q: Then, you weren't put in to a Relocation Camp?

A: No, I wasn't in a camp myself.

Q: Then, you don't have any memories of it?

A: That's right, I don't.

Q: How did you think about Nisei volunteering for the Army?

A: No, not really. When I was in Colorado, My son was going to be drafted . . . It was said that if you were a farmer, then they would not draft you. But it wasn't so, I was told by ( ? ) So I joined army after all.

Q: Where did you go first?

A: Colorado.

Q: Why did you go there?

A: To the Nakasugi's, they were my acquaintances. I looked for them. I went to Brighton, Colorado.

Q: How did Japanese churches reconstruct themselves?

A: The one in Colorado was there for a long time. It was doing very well in Colorado.

Q: How was the attitude of whites towards you after the war?

A: It was very good out there. They took a good care of us.

Q: How was the process of education of your children?

A: I was glad that they went to a city to study English and so on.

Q: How did you find house? Job? Who helped you to find them?

A: Nobody helped me. I asked a real estate agency to look for this house and so forth.



Q: Did you buy the house before the war?

A: Right, before the war.

Q: What was the most difficult experience you had during this time?

A: I didn't have that many difficulties.

Q: \_\_\_\_\_

A: Well, I like Christ . . . The best.







# WESTVIEW UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REV. SUMIO KOGA  
5 CHERRY COURT  
WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95076

TEL. 724-6222

INTERVIEW OF MR. FUSAJIRO ASANO, Watsonville, California  
Interviewer's names: Hiroko Shikuma

Hiroko: Where is your home prefecture?

Asano: I am from Fukushima prefecture.

When were you born?

Asano: I was born January 1st Meiji 17

Hiroko: Did you have the experience of War? I

Asano: I received the notice, but I wasn't able to go because I was so busy and forgot all about it.

Hiroko: Where were you at the time of Manchurian incident?

Asano: I was here in the U.S.A.

Hiroko: Did you read about it in the Newspaper?

Asano: I am not so good in memorizing things, so I forgot all about them.

Hiroko: Do you remember any happy experience, sad, painful, and difficult experience while you were in Japan?

Asano: I have a little.

What are some of the happy experiences?

Asano: I had very little happy experiences.

Hiroko: Did you have any sad experience?

Asano: I didn't have any sad experiences as such.

Hiroko: Did you face any suffering?

Asano: My father had a wealthy home so I didn't suffer as much. But my wife tells me that I was a rascal.

My home was close to school and they said, "you should tease the children and gave them bad time"

Hiroko: Did you have stormy weather, tide, or other hazardous experience?

Asano: No, I didn't have any of those experiences.

Hiroko: What was your religion?

Asano: Zen Buddhism.

Hiroko: Did you hear anything about Christianity while you were in Japan?

Asano: I heard something about it, because there were near my neighborhood.

Hiroko: How was the social condition of the society and family about the time you decided to come to U.S.A.

Asano: I don't have any idea,

Hiroko: you must remember something about your family?

Asano: I don't have any idea.



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Asano: I remember something about my family.  
My father was very weak in health, so my  
older brother had to work since 18 years old.  
My mother died five years after I came to the State  
so, I remember my father taking care of the silk worms.

Hiroko: What was your education in Japan?

Asano: I went to fourth grade and quit school when  
I was in fifth grade. I didn't like school and came to America at 2

Hiroko: Why was your reason for coming to U.S.A.

Asano: My friends were already in the U.S. so I wanted to  
go, but my folks won't give me the money to go, so  
looked for a rich uncle, but he too refused to help.

Finally out of desperation I look for a job in Shiraishi  
near Sendai and visited the floor manufacturing company.

was Suzuki  
asked

I visited the factory for a week then the manager#### whose name  
me whether I could operate the machine. I said "I could."

Water pours down from 100 feet altitude and by the water  
pressure it move the machine. The machine moves other  
machines. I knew how it operate so I showed him how  
it operates. ....

Hiroko: Did you come to U.S.A. hoping for a new opportu--  
nities?

Asano: So I came to U.S.A. because others told me that  
something good is in America.

Hiroko: When did you enter U.S.A.?

Asano: I arrived in Hawaii in January of 1904.

Hiroko: ~~I reached U.S.A. in 1906~~ When did you arrive at mainland.

Asano: I arrived in U.S.A. in 1907. No 1906 because I came before  
the San Francisco earthquake. It must be 1906.

Hiroko: How was the Hawaii in those days?

Asano: Hawaii was very good. I worked in the sugar field  
Then I came to U.S.A. after working for a while.

Hiroko: What kind of people were aboard the ship coming to  
U.S.A.?

Asano: There were many Japanese; people from Wakayama,  
Yamaguchi, and many others.

Hiroko: What was the name of the ship?

Asano: It was Korea Maru.

Hiroko: Do you recall any experience aboard the ship?

Asano: Well, I don't recall any special thing though they  
had all kinds of recreation.



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Hiroko: What kind of country did you think America was and what did you expect to see when you arrived?

Asano: I didn't have any special thought about that since I was so young.

Yoshida: How old were you then?

Asano: I was 19 years old.

That's right I stayed in Hawaii for two years so I must have been 21.

Hiroko: Did you think America will be wonderful country?

Asano: Oh, yes I was hoping that America would be a wonderful country. Hiroko: How good did you think America was?

Hiroko: Sincere there were rumors about how rich the country is so I wanted to earn some money and return to Japan.

Hiroko: What was your first impression of America?

Asano: I don't remember anything like that.

Hiroko: Did you have any experience with the immigration officers?

Asano: No, I didn't have to have and special investigation.

Even in Hawaii there was a fellow named Katsurama who was a native of Fukushima -ken(Which is my ken"

Wherever you want to go I will arrange them for you.

Hiroko: What is the first experience you had after coming to the state?

Asano: First I worked in whiteman's home though I didn't understand the language. This man owned a store

and around his ranch he was raising vegetables. He took some of them to the store and rest of them he took to

a teacher who was raising chicken in her yard and

I took care of them .. I was taking care of the chicks

Friend lived in Riverside and my friends lived

in there insisted that I join him because the wages were better. They paid 25¢ and hour.

If you pick oranges with piece work it would be better, too.

He said. So I went to Riverside.

Hiroko: How was the whiteman's and what did you think of them?

Asano: Whiteman were very kind and good to us.

Hiroko: What kind of treatment did you receive from the whiteman?

Asano: There were no threats made and they taught us everything and they were good to us.

Hiroko: Did you have any experience that cause you to be sad, angry, or resentful?

Asano: No.

Hiroko: Did you have any problem after you came to U.S.A.?



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Asano: Oh yes, when I went to Mexico I got into trouble when I worked for a shipping company.

Hiroko: How did you get married?

Asano: One day a friend of mine had taylor made suit ready and took out a passport and said you should go to Japan and visit. I was surprised that Mrs. Nagasaki saved my money for me and I had enough to go back.

For all these years I just worked and spend a few for spending but never added up what I earned.

I was ju#st working. I used# to go ou t and play around with a group of friends who drank. But, Mrs. Nagasaki advised me not to dr#nk so much, so I listened to her and she saved the money for me.

By 1927 I had more than enough morey to spend in Japan.

So, I took her advise and went to Japan. When I sent to Japan I visited a friend who ##### used to

live in Santa Barbara. He advised me that if you are going back to America you must take a wife along with you.

He said, I make arrangement for you. So, I followed him to meet a women. Then he took me to my uncle's place.

I asked him "Are you taking me to Sawaya's?" He said,

"Yes." Uncle was there and said "My it was very nice of you to visit me." Then he said "Come here and see."

Then to my surprise I met my bride to be and though I thought she would never say yes, she consented to marry me and come with me to this country.

Hiroko: Did you marry in Japan?

Asano: Yes, I married in Japan.

Hiroko: Was it a Japanese style wedding?

Asano: Yes,

Hiroko: Then you don't have any idea about Shashin kekkon (Picture bride wedding).

Asano: I heard abut it from other people but I Had no desire to go to Japan to get married until that time so I didn't pay much attention to it.

Hiroko: Did you ever had homesickness?

Asano: No, I didn't have any desire to go back to Japan so I never got homesick. I thought I should stay a little longer here in the State and then return to Japan.

I received so many letter asking for marriage and I was rather dubious about going to Japan.

Hiroko: What kind of suffering did you have in America.

Asano: I suffered because I didn't know English. It was easy when I was working at Santa Barbara because it required very little English, but other jobs required more English. But I didn't want to return to institutional education.



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(continued)

They #persuaded me to go , but I refused.

Hiroko: How much was your income?

Asano: My income was very small at beginning about 15¢ per hour When I went to Oxnard \$45 a month was my monthly wage. That was a good wage for those days.

Yoshida: It was a good wage for those days.

Hiroko: When did you buy this house?

Asano: We bought this house right after the WarII.

Hiroko: Were there any problems in purchasing the land?

Asano: No problem.

Hiroko: Howmuch was the building? Do you rember it?

Asano:13,000.00 There were no place to rent,so I bought it.

Hiroko: Did any one help you in purchasing the house?

Asano:No I didn't get any help.

Hiroko: Have you bought any ~~type~~ type of land?

Asano: No I didn't buy any land.

Hiroko: Did you belong to any organizations?

Asano:Idonatesome money to Nihonjin-kai(Japanese Ass.) but I didnt get any help from organizations'

Hiroko: What di d you do for fun.

Asano:I didn't have any recreation which I could call my own. I don't play poker or cards. When I was young I played billards ,because I worked at one pool Hall.

Hiroko: Did you enjoy having children?

Asano: Yes I did.

Hiroko: Did you send any children back to Japan?

Asano:No. If you send children to Japan the intimacy between ~~parents~~ parents and children will be lost. I hate to see this happen to them.

Hiroko: That was wonder#ful .

Hiroko: What kind of contribution you made during the World War I?

Asano: No I had no idea about that.

Hiroko: How about school system?

Asano: I have no idea.

Hiroko:When did you come in contact with Christianity?

Asano: After I wento Colorado during the WarII years I became a Christian. I did,however go to ?Church off and on while I lived in Salinas.

Hiroko:Did you suffer during depressio 1930

Asano: I was washing Electri cars during those days, Sincer I used machineriies on my work some one suggested that I should work for a trucking firm. So I started to work for trucking industries. I haveebeen in trucking all those years until the WarII.



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Hiroko: When did you decide to stay in America.

Asano: It was after my father passed away in Japan. Before that I had some desire to visit Japan.

Hiroko: How was the attitude of the Whiteman toward Japanese?

Asano: Not bad, as far as I was concerned. At the time of ~~the evacuation~~ evacuation people said that Filipinos will treat us bad, but they were very good toward us, too.

Hiroko: How did you feel when the Pearl Harbor was attacked?

Asano: I really don't know how to express the feeling.

Hiroko: How did you know about the evacuation?

Asano: Of course we received the notice from the government.

Hiroko: What were you doing at that time?

Asano: I was working in a farm hauling sugar beats with truck.

Hiroko: What was your feeling when you received the Evacuation notice?

Asano: Of course, I didn't feel good about it, because I wanted to stay here.

Hiroko: How did you evacuate?

Asano: We evacuated on our own, because you could sell anything to anyone that belonged to the Isseis, so we took our things and evacuated to Colorado.

Hiroko: How were the reaction of your white friends at the time of your Evacuation?

Asano: My friends were mostly sad to hear about it, but some perhaps might have been happy, I wouldn't know.

Hiroko: What did you do with your property?

Asano: I didn't have much so I sold some and took most of my things along with me.

Hiroko: How old were your children at the time of Evacuation?

Asano: Well, Wakichi was 18. Mary was about 7.

Hiroko: How was the attitude of the White Christians then?

Asano: I didn't have any dealings with any Christian Church in those days.

Hiroko: What was your feeling about Conscription of the Niseis?

Asano: I had very little contact on that issue because my children were young and they told me that it is now profitable to farm. So, we went to take odd and end jobs.

Hiroko: Where did you go to resettle?

Asano: Colorado.

Hiroko: Whose place did you go?

Asano: I had a friend at Mr. Nakashige's place, near Brighton.

Hiroko: Did you go to Church in Colorado?

Asano: Yes

Hiroko: How was the treatment of the White toward you?

Asano: They were very kind to us in Colorado. In fact very good toward us.



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Hiroko: What was your goal in training your children?

Asano: I .....

Hiroko: How did you find your home, did anyone help you in purchasing a home?

Asano: Nobody helped me. I found my own house.

Hiroko: Did you have any experience of prejudices before the War II?

Asano: No, I didn't have any experience of it.

Hiroko: What is your view regarding the situation we have as a Christian?

Asano: I love Jesus Christ and I hope that He will help others also.

Hiroko: Thank you for your patience.